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THE CONDOR

An Illustrated Magazine
of Western Ornithology

Publisht Bi-Monthly by the Cooper Ornithological Club of California.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

By Executive Order No. 1019, dated February 3, 1909, the "Hawaiian Islands Reservation" was established. This national bird preserve includes Laysan, Necker, and adjacent small islands, upon which great numbers of pelagic birds nest, such as Albatrosses, Shearwaters, and Terns. Persistent rumors have circulated in the newspapers of late, to the effect that Japanese were planning to land on the rookeries to destroy every bird obtainable, the feathers to be saved for various commercial purposes and the bodies to be made into fertilizer. The fact that not a few species, which are confined in the breeding season to these small islands would thus be exterminated, makes the establishment of this preserve with little doubt the most important step, from a strictly ornithological standpoint, in the history of bird preservation in this country. The annihilation of *species* was threatened.

For the good work in securing the necessary steps in the accomplishment of this highly commendable act, ornithologists have to thank Dr. T. S. Palmer, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, and Mr. Frank Bond, Chief Clerk of the General Land Office.

It is needless to say that the laws of the United States will be enforced, as gun-boats patrol the Hawaiian waters continually.

It is hoped that, before the next number of this magazine is issued, subscribers will receive their copies of the Ten-year Index. Its compiler, Mr. H. B. Kaeding, is at work on the

revised proofs. However, Mr. W. O. Emerson, who has charge of the financing, states that only about \$100.00 has been raised, whereas the total cost of the Index will be in the neighborhood of \$200.00. This lack of financial support will be the cause of any possible delay. Such casualty *should* not occur.

One of the most enjoyable events in the history of the Cooper Club was the Annual Dinner held at the Bismarck Café in San Francisco on the evening of January 16, 1909. There were twenty-four members present, occupying comfortably the single long table in the Fish Room. Toward the close of the banquet the toastmaster, Dr. W. K. Fisher, announced that this occasion might be fairly considered as a send-off for Mr. Edmund Heller who was about to leave to join the Roosevelt African Expedition. Mr. Heller was introduced and gave an insight into the conditions under which the collector has to work in the "Dark Continent," he having already experienced them as a member of an expedition sent there in 1905 by the Field Museum. President D'Evelyn was then called upon and spoke humorously of the various activities of the Club. State Game Warden Vogelsang gave a most entertaining account of his experiences in carrying on the work of the California Fish Commission. Prof. W. E. Ritter commented further upon the good work accomplished by Mr. Vogelsang, and closed the evening's program by discussing the desirability of the establishment of a public zoological park on this coast something like that in New York City.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

CAMPS AND CRUISES | OF AN | ORNITHOLOGIST | By | FRANK M. CHAPMAN | Curator[etc., 5 lines]. | With 250 Photographs from Nature | by the Author | [vignette] | New York | D. Appleton and Company | 1908. 8vo, pp. i-xvi, 1-432. (Cloth, \$3.00 net.)

Mr. Chapman's latest book is a record of adventure; it presents, too, a great amount of biographical ornithology. The combination results in a volume of extreme interest to the ordinary reader and the ornithologist alike. The photographic illustrations about which much of the narrative centers are of the highest order; they are each one illustrative of some habit or special feature in the habitat of the subject.

The matter incorporated into the "Camps and Cruises" was secured by the author during his expeditions after material for the splendid bird groups executed during the past seven years at the American Museum of Natural History. The opportunities thus afforded are here shown to have been utilized to the very best advantage.

As usual with Mr. Chapman's work the camera played a large part in his field studies. In the "Introduction" we are given new hints as to methods to be employed in securing intimate photographic acquaintance with wary